

A G E N D A



Thursday, May 8, 2008

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 58

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2 of the City Code relating to University Neighborhood Overlay (UNO) District development requirements. (Suggested date and time: May 22, 2008, 6:00 p.m., at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX.)

For More Information: Mark Walters, 974-7695; Humberto Rey, 974-7288; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Prior Council Action: 7/29/04 - Council approved an ordinance creating the University Neighborhood Overlay (UNO) District.

5/19/05 - Council approved an ordinance amending the UNO Ordinance to remove food preparation use and to limit areas of West Campus where local uses are allowed.

7/26/07 - Council approved an ordinance amending the UNO Ordinance to add sign regulations related to building signage in the UNO area.

The University Neighborhood Overlay (UNO) was adopted by the Austin City Council in September of 2004 as part of the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan planning process. The building boom in West Campus that followed the passage of the UNO pointed to some unforeseen and unintended issues arising from the ordinance as well as to issues regarding the lack of mechanisms to more strongly enforce the UNO Design Guidelines. Beginning in the summer of 2006, a working group of community stakeholders and City of Austin staff began an examination of the UNO ordinance to address these issues. Through 2006 and 2007 this group reviewed the UNO ordinance and the UNO Design Guidelines. The result of this process is code amendment case C20-07-006.

The results of this group relate to a significant update to the UNO ordinance. The proposed ordinance revisions address a number of different elements of the UNO. The proposed changes include:

- Internal organization of the ordinance;
- Regulations relating to small sites;
- Parking for existing sites that pre-date the UNO Ordinance;
- Building design along the ground floor;
- Off-site construction staging;
- Building height;
- Building design for sites adjacent to landmarked structures;
- Design guidelines;
- Building design between the ground and the first required building step-back;
- Setbacks between the building and the street;
- Hotels along major roadways;
- Screening between existing sites and new construction;
- Streetscape improvements;
- The location of trash receptacles; and
- Site access.